

SENATE BILL 3315

By Haynes

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 51, Part 2, relative to compensation for the death of a firefighter or certain law enforcement officials in the line of duty.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-51-206(a), is amended by deleting subdivision (1) and by substituting instead the following language:

(1) "Firefighter" means any regular or full-time employee of a fire department as defined in §68-102-302, or any unpaid volunteer member of a municipal or nonprofit fire department who is registered and recognized by the state fire marshal and who is required to extinguish and control fires or fire-related incidents; and

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 51, Part 2, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section:

(a) For the purposes of this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "In the line of duty" means in the course of employment and in the actual discharge of the duties of the position; and

(2) "Law enforcement officer" means the sheriff, sheriff's deputies, or any police officer employed by a municipality or political subdivision of the state of Tennessee whose primary responsibility is the prevention and detection of crime and the apprehension of offenders.

(b) The estate of any law enforcement officer who is killed in the line of duty shall be entitled to receive the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000). Payment shall be made from the general fund after receipt by the department of finance and

administration of a certified death certificate and an affidavit from the decedent's employer that the decedent was killed in the line of duty.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006, the public welfare requiring it.